

**Express Mail No.: EL 501 641 199 US**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Xu *et al.*

Application No.: 09/763,334

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: February 16, 2001 as National Stage  
Application of PCT/US99/19068,  
filed August 18, 1999

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: TREATMENT AND PREVENTION  
OF CANCER AND PITUITARY  
DISORDERS WITH LATS  
PROTEINS, DERIVATIVES AND  
FRAGMENTS, AND LATS  
KNOCK-OUT ANIMAL MODELS

Attorney Docket No.: 6523-020

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified application on the merits, please enter the following amendments and consider the remarks below. Accompanying this Preliminary Amendment is Exhibit A, a marked up version of the replacement paragraphs of the specification.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, at line 10, please replace the paragraph beginning "Priority is claimed" with the following paragraph:

-- This is a national stage application of International Application PCT/US99/19068, filed August 18, 1999, which was published under PCT Article 21(2) as PCT Publication No. WO 00/10602 in English. Priority is claimed to United States provisional applications Serial Nos. 60/096,997 and 60/096,996, both filed on August 18, 1998, both of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties. --